QUEEN VICTORIA TO THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND.

From the London [illegible]

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DAILY PROGRESS.

RALEIGH, N. C.

MONDAY, MAY 2, 1864.

Subscription Prices.

The Government [illegible] dollar paper is [illegible] longer to be taken at [illegible] take them on [illegible] for them by W. R. Hartsfield, Chief of the [illegible] Department.

[illegible] receive money than it is held at by its own financial agents. The whole blame, therefore, of the depreciation of the dollar is with the Government and not with the people. Persons sending us $5's by mail will be credited for two-thirds their face and no more, and no $5 bill will hereafter be paid in fives save at cash discount.

May 1, 1864.

Conservative Meetings for Wilson.

We publish to-day the proceedings of the Conservative meeting held in this City on Friday night last. The notice was short, and no special efforts were made to procure a full attendance, yet there were more than one hundred and fifty present of the "bone and sinew" of our people. The most entire harmony and good feeling prevailed.

The Conservatives of Raleigh, in common with those of the State, have entered their protest against the act of Congress suspending civil liberty, and have demanded its repeal. Gov. Vance, in his Wilkesborough speech, apologized for this suspension of civil liberty, and I advised the people to "stand up to it" as a constitutional measure, not his own neighbors, whose Conservatism has never been doubted, while they have no idea of resisting the law, nevertheless differ with the Governor on this subject and therefore do not take his advice. His subsequent application to suspension must be regarded by even the most charitable as an after thought to get votes.

The resolutions adopted by this meeting in addition to the Governor call him to account for his interference in State affairs, proceeds from citizens who are accurately informed on the subject. Our people have had the fairest opportunity to judge of the conduct of Gov. Vance, for it has been in their midst and before their eyes every day, and while they declare that he has proved faithless to his principles and unconservative through personality, officially and politically with the Conservative leaders here, as well as elsewhere in this State, they but utter the evidence of their own senses.

We look forward with the utmost confidence to the result of the mass meeting to be held here on Monday of May Court. A regular and unbroken delegation will no doubt be constituted, and the Conservatives will swing the county by an immense majority.

Mr. Holden will get five or six to one over Gov. Vance in Raleigh, and he will carry the county, by the Gov.'s majority in February Vance received two years ago.

There was also a meeting of the Conservatives at James Lunn's on Saturday. The meeting was well attended, the districts being represented, and the Resolutions passed at the Raleigh meeting were adopted with slight alterations.

Col. Rose, Secretary of State, was present and entertained the assemblage with a very excellent speech, in which he said that, though his personal relations and official transactions with Gov. Vance had been most pleasant and agreeable, he could not under any circumstances support him with his changed position and principles. Mr. Holden was right, had been right all the time, and he should give him a hearty and cordial support. We were assured Mr. Holden and the Conservative ticket for the Legislature would sweep almost everything in the upper part of the county.

The War Around Richmond.

For the latest from Virginia we refer to our telegraphic columns. On Thursday and Friday there was heavy fighting on the line of the Rapidan, but during [illegible] telegraphic communication ceased, and [illegible] by the enemy it was [illegible], but [illegible] we know nothing of the general situation. We hope the wires will be up before we go to press.

We have lost several gallant officers and doubtless many men, but Lee's position had been taken and the enemy had been given battle.—Let us hope that the struggle so magnificently begun may have a glorious termination, and that it may prove the crowning victory of this war, to be followed by a speedy and honorable peace.

Of the preliminary operations and movements of the contending armies the *Examiner* of Friday says:

Official information was received here yesterday that the enemy was crossing the James river with a formidable fleet, consisting of transports, gunboats and several armed vessels. During the day, later information stated that they had passed City Point and were landing at Bermuda Hundreds, a point on the south side of the James river, below Drewry's Bluff. A dispatch from Bermuda Hundreds, dated at half-past six o'clock, stated that some three or four regiments had landed there, and that their flag was then flying, and the disembarkation of troops was rapidly going on.

Dispatches received estimate the enemy's force about nine thousand strong. This fleet is said to number thirty-four vessels, including not only transports and gunboats, but several of the largest monitors.

It is thought that the enemy's plan in landing at Bermuda Hundreds is either to cut the Petersburg railroad or to move against Drewry's Bluff, taking it in the rear.

A small force of the enemy were also said to be landing from barges at Wilcox's wharf, on the north side of the James river near Charles City Court House. This is done with the object of causing our forces on the Peninsula to fall back.

We have no more from the armies in Northern Virginia, beyond the fact that the whole Yankee army is moving, and that all indications point to an early engagement. The attention is small that the impending battle would be brought on at [illegible] the Government was last night, without any later information from General Lee.

[illegible]

A gentleman from Weldon, Virginia, informs us that Averill's forces are traveling about Lewisburg, and should they succeed, Hunter (about the middle of May) could easily cross the Kanawha river, and take the Central Virginia. A letter from a Richmond merchant, dated Lewisburg, April 25th, just received, states Averill's command, a few days ago, two Yankee regiments, with six pieces of artillery, two hundred strong, with their field and forty horses, captured by Col. Jackson's command, after pursuing some thirteen days, re-encamped the trip and returned. Three companies of Beverly were captured. Fifty wagons were taken [illegible] through Cumberland to [illegible] Gap.

Some persons entertain the opinion that the most serious blow to Richmond is to be feared from the forces advancing by the Peninsula and James River; we trust, however, we shall have troops in position to prevent the success of their plans. Of the landing at City Point and above the Express of Friday says:

We have no knowledge, with a certainty just right, who has the command of these forces, as half-armed rumors say the infantry are under Gen. [illegible] Butler, and the cavalry under Gen. [illegible]. Their landing was conducted by [illegible] from their gunboats, and four wooden steamboats.

Reports, however, to-day state that the Yankees [illegible] Point, on the [illegible] side, and [illegible] miles from Petersburg. It is also within [illegible] three hours march of the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad.

We must [illegible] from the North on yesterday morning, and consequently we did not receive the Virginia papers of Saturday. A rumor prevailed that the wires and road had been cut at Stony Creek, some twenty miles this side of Petersburg, but the rumor lacked confirmation, at least so to the road.

P. S. Since the above was put in type we are positively assured that both the wires and railroad [illegible] of Stony Creek, the 28th of Petersburg. The line runs open to Richmond, via Chesterfield and Danville, last night, but the wires were encumbered with government [illegible], and at this writing, 10 o'clock, no press news is expected. If any appears we shall put it in.

Politics Mentioned.

A gentleman writing to us from [illegible] says:

"With a few exceptions the masses of the people will certainly support W. W. Holden for Governor in August."

A gentleman writing to us from Mecklenburg says:

"I am highly pleased with the movement here taken in regard to the Governor election. I have not the least shadow of a doubt but Mr. Holden will be elected."

A subscriber writing us from [illegible] says:

"The Gov. Lunn is elected by a handsome majority over both his opponents, and yet it is no end, say the Vance men. Should Holden be elected Governor next August, some would have the audacity to say that it was to test that he was strong in North Carolina."

WILSON, May 1st.

"Very few if any Holden men here. All hope to see him induced to withdraw."—*Conservative.*

We happen to know that the above statement is unfounded. Our information is to the effect that Mr. Holden will carry the County of Wilson.

Mr. Holden will not withdraw in any event. That is certain. He is a candidate at the request of the Legislature and the people, and he will run through at the election.

Correspondence of the Progress.

KINSTON, N. C., May 6th, 1864.

It is a source of much gratification to a newspaper correspondent, to know that, with the difficulties he has to labor under, and all the obstacles he has to confront in multitudinous ways, that his letters anticipate even the telegraph information, and his exertions meet with public favor, and are received by the [illegible] and [illegible]. But there again he likes to see the proper authority given, also, in connection with these synopsis. I find the Richmond Examiner, and the *Confederate* of your city, guilty of granting important news from the latter, without the slightest recognition of the source. Let the *Confederate* does not the honor of putting a little salve on his brethren editorial, by a brief paragraph of information he possesses.

I presume no indiscretion now, in saying that our troops moved on the 3d instant, for the investment of Newbern. The deepened gun-[illegible] back their thunders this morning tell me the work is going on; and although really have no conflict [illegible] in a wound received on the 3d, through an accident, I hurry to the front this morning. Numbers is belayed, and with a force sufficient to secure to fall to-day, or very soon to, prisoners. This is reliable—and God grant that we may all have the fruition of our hopes in a more glorious victory than 1864 has yet given us!

VAN.

We see that the information relative to the fall of Washington, conveyed to you in my letter of the 1st instant, reached you before the telegraph advised the public of it.

The Speech of Mr. Stephens

Is now ready and may be had at our counting room. Only 5,000 copies were printed and those who do not send their orders soon will be disappointed, for the edition will soon be exhausted.

[illegible]

[illegible] which has recently crowned our arms in the eastern part of the State, and that we look forward to the pending struggles in Virginia with hope with the hope that signal victories may furnish our veteran troops and thus pave the way to negotiations and an early peace.

Resolved, That we respectfully recommend as our first choice for Governor, Willie D. Jones, and [illegible] Dortch, Dr. [illegible] Gen. R. Ransom and W. E. Richardson, Esquires. If they cannot be induced to consent to the above first named gentlemen, our active and cordial support, we beg leave to tender to [illegible] Holden and neighbors, to refer especially to the qualifications of Mr. Richardson. We feel sure that he would make a useful and highly acceptable member. We can, confidently appeal to our brother Conservatives, that he is a good and true Democrat (whose "after the manner are"). While we will cheerfully support any citizen that may be agreed upon by the mass meeting, yet we beg leave to add that the nomination of Mr. Richardson as one of the ticket will be highly gratifying to this meeting.

Resolved, That we citizens who are devoted to the principles of Conservative principles, and believing that none but good and true Conservatives should be supported for any office within our gift at this time, and as all officers of the State and general government are not the agents of the people, and that the masses have the right to nominate and elect all officers from the highest to the lowest, we respectfully recommend to the mass meeting to assemble in this City at May Court, the name of Col. J. P. H. Rush, [illegible] Gilmer sterling ability and unswerving influence our organization is entitled for many of its past victories, for the office of Sheriff at the election in August; and if nominated, we, the Conservatives of the City of Raleigh, promise him a hearty and zealous support.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the Chairman to make arrangements for the mass meeting on Monday of May Court.

After the reading of the resolutions they were submitted to the meeting and unanimously adopted.

After a short and eloquent speech from Mr. Pennington, the Chairman appointed the following committee [illegible]

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